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## THE HIGH SCHOOL JOURNAL

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### EDITORIAL COMMENT

#### *High School Conferences*

Mr. J. Henry Highsmith, State Inspector of High Schools for North Carolina, has recently concluded a series of five conferences of high school teachers and principals which have been exceedingly well attended and highly profitable meetings. The meetings were held at Asheville, Greensboro, Raleigh, Wilmington, and Greenville. For several years prior to the World War it was the practice of the State Department of Education to hold such conferences, but for good reasons these meetings were temporarily abandoned during the war. The problems presented and discussed at these meetings come right out of the daily work and experience of teachers and principals in attendance, and though not all of the questions raised have received final answers—that was not to be expected, of course—the discussions they precipitated, the relation of experiences they called forth from the more experienced teachers, and the exchange of views and ideas were indeed highly profitable to all—especially to the younger members of the group. It is to be hoped that the State Department of Education will continue the practice of holding these sectional high school conferences for they can be made a strong constructive force in the upbuilding of North Carolina high schools.

#### *Supreme Court Decision Marks New Epoch in Educational Progress*

Just as this issue of the JOURNAL goes to press, the Supreme Court of North Carolina hands down a favorable decision in the Guilford County case which has been in the courts since last spring. The decision comes too late for us to include in this issue a full statement of the legal issues involved or an analysis of the educational aspects of the case. We must, therefore, reserve such a statement for our December issue. This much can be said: the decision is epoch-

making for educational progress in North Carolina. Within the past decade only two other decisions directly affecting education in this state are comparable with this one in importance—the one making the public high school an organic part of our public school system, and the other validating the \$5,000,000 of state funds for public school buildings. The state is ready now to go ahead with its program of consolidation with the county as the unit of taxation and administration. The way for greater progress is now open. The legal technicalities that have so often blocked the way have become obsolete.

#### *N. C. Day Program*

The State Department of Education did not this year issue a complete program in bulletin form for North Carolina Day but has sent out to the schools the following outline for such a program:

Subject: How Can the School and the Community Coöperate in Making a Better Citizenship.

1. What can our Community do to make our school a real Community Center for the benefit of all the people?
2. Should music, practical agriculture, domestic science, and physical education be taught in our school and how can good instruction in these subjects benefit our Community? What can our Community do to enable us to teach these subjects successfully?
3. How can our neighboring Communities coöperate with us so that their children as well as ours may have the advantage of these important subjects?
4. In what respect would playgrounds and beautiful school grounds benefit our Community and how can the women aid us in securing them?
5. How can we make our High School meet more fully the needs of our boys and girls for every day life in the Community?
6. How can our school coöperate more successfully with the social and industrial activities in the Community?
7. How can we teach our people to become lovers of law and order and persuade them to believe in temperance?
8. If everybody coöperates to make our Community better will we be better prepared to meet a great crisis such as the world war?
9. Secure a speaker if possible to discuss the part our Community played in the war and our motive to guarantee the world against war?